AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-7 (canceled)

Claim 8 (original): A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a display, comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display at least one layer on a screen of the display;

attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data onto the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

allowing the execution icon of the layer to move in response to an operation of a user of the computer system;

detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

upon detection of the event, deleting the execution-related data corresponding to the execution icon from the performance data.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A performance data editing method for a computer system containing a display, comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display at least one layer on a screen of the display;

~~allowing an~~ attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data to ~~be attached onto~~ the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

allowing the execution icon of the layer to move in response to an operation of a user of the computer system;

detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

upon detection of the event, deleting the execution icon on the screen.

Claims 10-16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (original): A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:

a controller for displaying at least one layer on a screen of the display;

an operator being operated by a user for attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data onto the layer and for moving the execution icon of the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

a detector for detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

a delete executor for upon detection of the event, deleting the execution-related data corresponding to the execution icon from the performance data.

Claim 18 (original): A performance data editing apparatus containing a display comprising:

a controller for displaying at least one layer on a screen of the display;

an operator being operated by a user for attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data onto the layer and for moving the execution icon of the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

a detector for detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

a delete executor for upon detection of the event, deleting the execution icon on the screen.

Claims 19-22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (original): A machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a display for performing a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display at least one layer on a screen of the display;

attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data onto the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

allowing the execution icon of the layer to move in response to an operation of a user of the computer system;

detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

upon detection of the event, deleting the execution-related data corresponding to the execution icon from the performance data.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A machine-readable media storing data and programs that cause a computer system containing a display for performing a performance data editing method comprising the steps of:

controlling the computer system to display at least one layer on a screen of the display;

~~allowing an~~ attaching an execution icon corresponding to execution-related data to ~~be attached onto~~ the layer, wherein the execution-related data constructs a part of performance data;

allowing the execution icon of the layer to move in response to an operation of a user of the computer system;

detecting an event in which the execution icon is moved outside of a prescribed display area; and

upon detection of the event, deleting the execution icon on the screen.

Claim 25 (canceled)

Claim 26 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 8, wherein one or plural execution icons are arranged in the layer in a direction from the left to the right on the display screen in accordance with progress of the performance data.

Claim 27 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 8, wherein the layer is displayed as an execution icon layer corresponding to the execution-related data.

Claim 28 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 27, wherein the execution icon layer contains at least one of a tempo icon layer, a dynamics icon layer, a joint icon layer, a modulation icon layer, an accent icon layer, an attack icon layer, and a release icon layer.

Claim 29 (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 8, wherein when the execution icon attached to the layer is edited, edited content is reflected onto the performance data.

Claim 30. (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 9, wherein one or plural execution icons are arranged in the layer in a direction from the left to the right on the display screen in accordance with progress of the performance data.

Claim 31. (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 9, wherein the layer is displayed as an execution icon layer corresponding to the execution-related data.

Claim 32. (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 31, wherein the execution icon layer contains at least one of a tempo icon layer, a dynamics icon layer, a joint icon layer, a modulation icon layer, an accent icon layer, an attack icon layer, and a release icon layer.

Claim 33. (new): The performance data editing method according to claim 9, wherein when the execution icon attached to the layer is edited, edited content is reflected onto the performance data.